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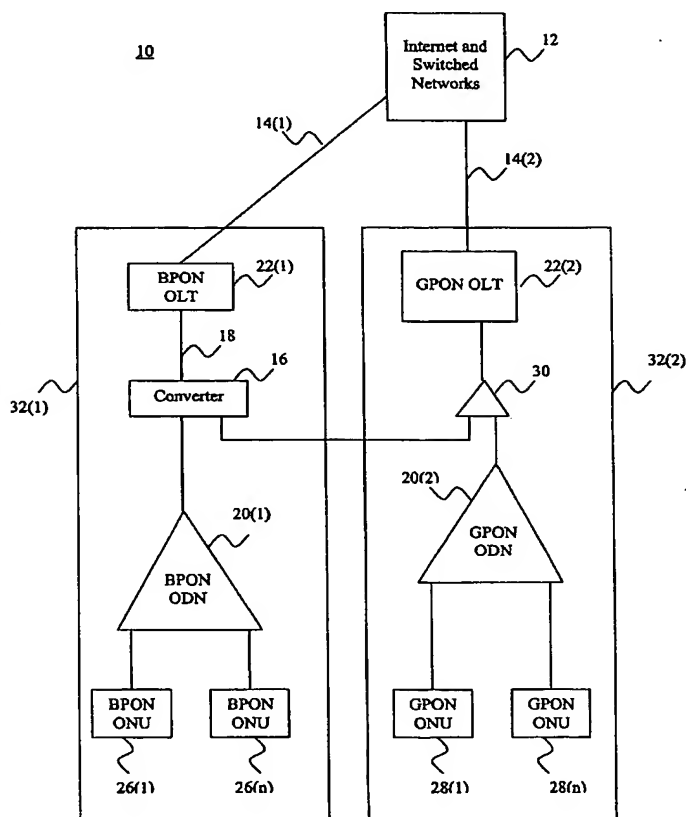
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR COMMUNICATING BETWEEN A LEGACY PON NETWORK AND AN UP-
GRADED PON NETWORK



(57) Abstract: Methods and apparatuses consistent with the present invention facilitate the transition from a legacy network [32(1)] to an upgraded network [32(2)] by providing a converter [16] that communicates between the legacy network and the upgraded network. The converter [16] is provisioned such that legacy devices, such as Optical Network Units (ONUs) [26], appear as upgraded devices to the upgraded network [32(2)], while the upgraded network [32(2)] looks like a legacy network to the legacy devices.



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